GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2343
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000
MARR TELEPHONES IN BIHAR
RAJESH RANJAN (PAPPU YADAV);RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether MARR telephones were made available to the villages at panchayat level in Bihar;

(c) wheter this scheme is running smoothly;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

(d) the number of telephone connections provided under MARR systems in each district of Bihar as on June, 2000;

(e) whether the Government propose to bring improvement in this scheme;

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
(g) the steps taken by the Government so far to provide alternative service in place of non-operational telephone services?

Answer

Minister Of State for Communications (Shri Tapan Sikdar)

(a): Yes Sir.

(b) & (c): Significant achievements were made in providing VPTs in rural areas of the country. However, performance of MARR systems has not been very satisfactory due to the reasons given as under:

MARR equipment is not reliable
Unstable power supply at base station;
Poor response from the suppliers for maintenance of MARR system;

(d): 13,637 MARR telephones have been provided on MARR system. District-wise details is given in the enclosed annexure.

(e) & (f): Yes Sir. The Government has taken the following steps to improve the scheme:

Flying squads have been constituted;
Frequent testing of MARR telephones from exchanges as preventive measures;
Repair centres are being setup in each Circle;
AMC is being entered with suppliers;

(g): It is planned to replace non-operational MARR telephones by new technology equipment.

Statement In Respect Of Part (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.2343 for 7th August, 2000 regarding MARR Telephones in Bihar

ANNEXURE

Sl. No.	Name of Telecom District	No. of VPTs on MARR as on 30/6/2000
1	Arrah	692
2	Bhagalpur	847
3	Chapra	556
4	Daltonganj	433
5	Darbhanga	766
6	Dhanbad	861
7	Dumka	895
8	Gaya	901
9	Hazaribagh	1006
10	Hazipur	218
11	Jamshedpur	596

12	Katihar	1109
13	Khagaria	441
14	Motihari	627
15	Mungher	661
16	Muzaffarpur	371
17	Patna	861
18	Ranchi	828
19	Saharsa	591
20	Sasaram	377

Total 13637